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NOTES AND NEWS.

Edited by W. D. Cairns, Oberlin College.

Professor R. M. Barton of Lombard College, Galesburg, Ill., has been made dean and acting president of that institution.

Mr. George Rutledge and Dr. B. B. Libby have been appointed instructors in mathematics in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Dr. Raymond B. Robbins has been appointed to an instructorship in mathematics in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University.

Professor E. D. Roe, Jr., of Syracuse University, and Mr. F. E. Carr, of Oberlin College, spent the summer in astronomical work at Yerkes Observatory.

Miss Anna D. Lewis, instructor in mathematics and astronomy at Mt. Holyoke College, has been appointed head of the department of mathematics in Kentucky College for Women.

Henry Holt and Company has announced Rietz, Crathorne and Taylor's "School Algebra," also Young and Schwartz's "Elementary Geometry."

The January–February number of the *Rendiconti del Circolo Matematico di Palermo* contains a biographical account of the work of Professor G. B. Guccia by Professor M. de Franchis.

The June number of the *Pahasapa Quarterly* of the South Dakota School of Mines pays a tribute to Professor H. L. McLaury in recognition of his completion of twenty years as head of the department of mathematics.

Professor Ellery W. Davis, of the University of Nebraska, gave the annual address before the Iowa Academy of Sciences on April 30 on the subject "Uncertainties."

The Open Court for August, 1915, contains an article by Professor F. Cajori on "The Life of William Oughtred," who contributed to the propagation of mathematical knowledge in England during the early part of the seventeenth century.

Professor C. J. Keyser, of Columbia University, delivered the commencement address at the University of Oregon in June. He gave also the annual address before the chapter of Sigma Xi of the University of Washington on "Science and Religion, or the Rational and the Super-rational."

In the June number of *School Science and Mathematics* Professor M. O. TRIPP, of Olivet College, enumerates "Some simple applications of elementary algebra to arithmetic," and Mr. H. C. Wright describes the use of mathematical apparatus in the university high school of the University of Chicago.

Mr. W. L. HART will be instructor in mathematics and astronomy at the University of Montana for the first semester of the present year, in place of Professor L. S. Hill, who has accepted an appointment at Princeton University. Mr. Hart will return to Chicago after the holidays to finish his work for the doctorate at the University of Chicago.

Miss OLIVE HAZLETT, who has just finished her work for the doctorate at the University of Chicago, has returned to her home in Boston. She holds a traveling scholarship from the Association of Collegiate Alumnæ, which she had hoped to use in Europe during the coming year, but war conditions may make this impracticable.

An article of interest to teachers of mathematics was published in *School and Society* for May 29, under the title "College Pedagogy," by LOUIS W. ROPER, of Pennsylvania State College. A list is given of 33 qualities of a good college instructor made by twenty college juniors and seniors, each of whom had come in contact with about forty instructors in high school and college.

Dr. S. W. REAVES, professor of mathematics at the University of Oklahoma, is resuming his work after a year spent on sabbatic leave studying in Chicago. He completed work for his doctorate at the close of the summer quarter.

Science for July 2 prints the Halley Lecture for the year 1915 on "Measurements of the distances of the stars," in which the Astronomer Royal, Sir F. W. Dyson, recounts the progress made up to the present in measuring the parallaxes of the nearer fixed stars.

Professor ARTHUR D. PITCHER, of Dartmouth College, has been appointed head of the department of mathematics in Adelbert College, Western Reserve University; and Dr. JOHN M. STETSON has been appointed instructor in mathematics.

The *Mathematical Gazette* for May contains two papers of special interest: "Notes on the Board of Education circular No. 851" (a revision of an earlier circular on the teaching of geometry), by Miss M. J. PARKER, and the first instalment of "The discovery of logarithms by Napier," by Professor H. S. CARSLAW. It will be interesting to compare the latter as it appears with Professor Cajori's "History of the exponential and logarithmic concepts" which appeared in the MONTHLY during the year 1913.

An organization of men who are teaching mathematics in secondary schools of Chicago and vicinity has just started on its second year of activity. They meet monthly for an informal dinner and discussion of live topics of the day in mathematics.

In the thirteenth yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education appears a paper by H. C. Morrison, superintendent of public instruction for New Hampshire, under the title "Reconstructed mathematics in the high school: the adaptation of instruction to the needs, interests, and capacities of students." This discussion, guided largely by the utilitarian viewpoint, examines critically the extent to which arithmetic, geometry and algebra are needed by different groups of students, *e. g.*, domestic arts, agriculture, mechanic arts, etc., and insists that each shall have its own specially organized mathematics, in charge of specialists in that curriculum.

Mr. W. D. REEVE, formerly instructor in mathematics at the University of Chicago High School, is now in charge of the mathematical courses in the department of education in the University of Minnesota. Mr. Reeve is a graduate of the University of Chicago and has been on the High School staff for several years.

In the last volume of the "Proceedings of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education" more than 50 pages are devoted to articles on the teaching of college mathematics and discussion of this subject. The articles are: "Practical mathematics," by Professors FRANKLIN, MACNUTT, and CHARLES; "The proper use of the differential in calculus," by Professor E. V. HUNTINGTON, and "The calculus without symbols," by Professor E. R. HEDRICK. Professor Huntington brings out very clearly, by quotations from texts in calculus, how vague is the presentation of so simple and fundamental concept as that of the differential. The spirited discussion of the first two articles will be found edifying in spots and quite entertaining throughout. No teacher of calculus can afford to miss reading these papers and their discussion.

After the present year the College Entrance Examination Board will conduct all entrance examinations for Yale, Princeton, and Harvard Universities. In view of this greatly increased scope of the Board's work, it is anticipated that 10,000 candidates will be dealt with in the June, 1916, examinations. The readers in mathematics for the present year are as follows:

Algebra.—Professor C. R. MacInnes (chief reader), Princeton; Edward B. Chamberlain, Franklin School, New York; Miss E. B. Cowley, Vassar; C. A. Ewing, Tome School, Port Deposit; Miss Marcia Latham, Hunter; Professor W. R. Longley, Yale; I. F. McCormick, Albany Academy; George W. Mullins, Barnard; C. B. Walsh, Ethical Culture School, New York.

Geometry.—Professor Virgil Snyder (chief reader), Cornell; F. C. Baldy, St. Mark's School, Southboro; G. M. Conwell, Yale; Professor H. N. Davis, Harvard; L. S. Dederick, Princeton; J. G. Estill, Hotchkiss School, Lakeville; J. R. Gardner, Allen-Stevenson School, New York; G. M. Green, Harvard; Professor J. C. Hardy, Williams; Lester E. Lynde, Phillips Academy, Andover; F. J. McMackin, Columbia; E. B. Morrow, Gilman Country School, Roland Park; Professor A. D. Pitcher, Western Reserve; H. W. Reddick, Columbia; H. L. Sweet, Phillips Exeter Academy; L. L. Whitney, Collegiate School, New York.